

Petersburg
Anti-Poverty Commission (APC) Minutes
March 11, 2021

Attendees: Dr. Rosezelia Roy, Ms. Keitoya Taylor, Mrs. Barbara Hoosier, Monica Elrod-Huddleston, Mrs. Florence Rhue.

Guest: Mr. Kenneth Miller, Interim City Manager, Annette Smith - Lee, Vice-Mayor

Citizens: Ms. Brittany Crockett, Patrick Ingram, Mrs. Michelle Murrills, Amanda Hanbansky,

Video Conference: Zoom meeting

Agenda:

I. Opening of Meeting.

Dr. Rosezelia Roy

Opening Prayer: Dr. Rosezelia Roy

Meeting Commenced: 6:09 p.m.

II. Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Florence Rhue 1st, Mrs. Monica Elrod- Huddleston 2nd

III. Introduction of Guest: Annette Smith-Lee, Vice Mayor, Mr. Kenneth Miller, Interim City Manager

Dr. Rosezelia Roy

IV. Overview of Anti-Poverty Commission's Goals.

Dr. Rosezelia Roy

V. Conversation with Annette Smith-Lee, Vice Mayor and Mr. Kenneth Miller, Interim City Manager

Topic/Questions Commissioners/Guests	Guests	Summary of /Guest remarks:
Dr. Roy: Inquired about status of poverty rate in Petersburg	Annette Smith-Lee	Expressed concerned and care for families. Shared an experience.
Dr. Roy: Do you feel the workforce components are moving forward or are there any suggestions that you may have.	Annette Smith-Lee	Discussed passing the bill about literacy. Some individuals are ashamed to express the need for help.
Mrs. Rhue: Looking at the statistics from Social Services, the literacy rate in Petersburg 42.8%.		

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Topic/Questions Commissioners/Guests	Guests	Summary of/Guest remarks:
<p>Dr. Roy: Inquired about the next step for workforce development.</p>	<p>Mr. Kenneth Miller</p>	<p>Poverty causes crime. “Everyone is not cut out for college.” He would like to prep the next city manager to cultivate, to provide foresight to build on things and to develop a training component.</p> <p>We don’t partner very well. We have a college next door and don’t encourage the people to stay in the community. We need to find a way to take the city forward. It is important to see the value and then move forward.</p> <p>How can we encourage businesses to come? It takes a lot of partnerships and the building of contracts.</p> <p>What causes poverty? Lack of training opportunities and businesses in the community.</p>
<p>Dr. Roy: Workforce development relating to adults. Ages 18 and above. Expressed wrap around services for individuals. Program was offered in Petersburg but not sure regarding outcome.</p>	<p>Mr. Kenneth Miller</p>	<p>The employer will receive credits for the programs developed. We as a city need to recognize the programs and projected tax revenue. When we get a viable workforce, the city will grow and change the city.</p>
<p>Mr. Patrick Ingram, Guest: How can we collaborate with the military? We need to look at the systematic issues in the community. The lack of support, accountability, housing</p>	<p>Mr. Kenneth Miller</p>	<p>“I have requested the resumes of the employees to make sure the job descriptions match qualifications.” “We don’t have to wait for the state to review salaries. There are individual employed by the</p>

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<p>insecurity are parts of the equation and also income disparities. Patrick Ingram How can the City of Petersburg step up? There exist grant funding that relate to the issues. How does the City Council make it to the finish line?</p>		<p>city that makes \$7.25 an hour. We need to address why the people are not making at least more. People are digging holes. I want the citizens to make more than \$9.00 an hour. I am passionate about the workforce. How are you going to get people to come here to work? Must depart the meeting. Welcome additional conversation, provided cell number.</p>
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VI. Acknowledgement of Appreciation of Guests

Dr. Roy expressed appreciation for their presence and the sharing of information.

VII. Approval of Minutes (December 2020 and February 2021)

Dr. Roy	Motion for the approval of the minutes December 2020 through February 2021.
	Mrs. Florence Rhue the minutes can stand as corrected. The minutes stand as approved as corrected.
	November 11, 2020. No correction- stand approved as presented.
	December 10, 2020. No correction-stand approved as presented.
	January 14, 2021. No correction- stand approved as presented.
	February 11, 2021. No correction- stand approved as presented.

VIII. Follow-up on Minutes Being placed on Petersburg’s Official Website and meeting date announcement.

Dr. Roy	Spoke with Ms. Osaba. She sent the 2015 – 2020 minutes to Dr. Roy, Pastor Shannon and Mrs. Treska Wilson-Smith. Some links were unable to open for review. This was corrected and approved for submission. However, they have not been placed on the website. Follow-up will be made.
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IX. Discussion of Guest Response.

Dr. Roy	Looking at the K-12 and adult component. Training to be prepared for the workforce. The School Board chair is on the JTCC Workforce Development. What can Petersburg do to get ourselves marketable? How can the individuals of Petersburg get those skilled jobs? Petersburg schools are working to graduate students with trade skills and certifications.
Mrs. Florence Rhue	Everyone is not made for college and they need to be a part of the job market.
Patrick Ingram	He has participated in Planning Commission meetings and would like to learn about the vision. He has inquired about the barriers, hotspots and modernization of the facilities. How do we grow as a community and become a workforce? People in the city have been a part of a huge trauma. A pharmaceutical plant is coming to the area. There should be a demand in the contracts to ask our city and state government to include Petersburg.
Dr. Roy	There are several programs in Petersburg and we all can work together. There should be structured changes to legislative policies. The community can bring forth ideas and move forth.
Mrs. Florence Rhue	Do you know if we have a legislative liaison?
Mrs. Elrod-Huddleston	What is the city doing with the taxes? Chesterfield is building schools every other year? We have to get volunteers to paint the school.
Mrs. Florence Rhue	I was impressed with Mr. Miller. It is a great idea that he is looking at people's resumes and looking at the different tiers. The City workers should be paid more for what they do.

X. Suggested Best Practices

	What would be beneficial for the people?
Mrs. Florence Rhue	Suggested to follow Richmond format and best practice when we are putting our presentation together.

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XI. Announcements

April 24, 2021, Delta Sigma Theta will have a forum in April for the purpose of expressing the needs of the city of Petersburg. Dr. Roy has been requested to serve on the panel..
Greg Hill helps the homeless. The Greg Hill Center located at 1131 Farmer Street, Petersburg is now accepting men who are homeless. It is a 10-bed facility. The men will be allowed to stay up to 30 days. They must have an ID and submit to temperature checks. There is a waitlist due to this being the only available male shelter in the area. You must call and provide information first for anyone that you would like to utilize the shelter. The hours of operation are 8:30am - 1pm daily. There is no walk-in service because there is a waitlist. You must call 804-324-5061 to speak with the staff and provide the consumer's information. I'm not sure how long the waitlist is at this time.
Catholic Charities are assisting.
There is now a vaccine finder website that can help to locate potential sites for vaccination: https://vaccinefinder.org/ After you put in a zip code and the radius of miles you want, it will generate a list and let you know who has stock. You then have to try to obtain an appointment at that location.
Planning Commission is trying to rezone Crater Rd. near Thacker's for single homes and town houses. Location is also near Walmart.
Community Block Grant request for participation was in the Progress-Index on March 9, 2021

XII. Closing

Time: 8:05pm
Prayer: Mrs. Rhue
Next Scheduled Meeting: April 8, 2021

Recorder: Ms. Keitoya Taylor